

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 01038 050325Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SSO-00  
INRE-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 /055 W  
-----050335Z 036022 /14

O 041640Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6209

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LOME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS NIAMEY 1038

MONROVIA FOR RCA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, NG

SUBJ: CIVAIR-CRASH OF OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS DC-8

REF: NIAMEY 1019; B. USUN 618

1. RELIABLE EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT SAYS FINAL APPROACH  
APPEARED NORMAL--WHEELS EXTENDED AND LANDING LIGHTS  
ON--BUT APPEARED VERY LOW. DC-8 APPARENTLY IMPACTED  
200-300 METERS SHORT OF RUNWAY; LARGE EXPLOSION FOLLOWED  
IMPACT. AIRCRAFT CAME TO REST TO LEFT OF RUNWAY APPROACH  
ON ITS BACK WHERE IT APPARENTLY EXPLODED SEVERAL MORE TIMES  
AND BURNED. CREWMEN WILLARD AND BARILLO REPORTEDLY EJECTED  
FROM AIRCRAFT AND DEAD ON ARRIVAL AT NIAMEY HOSPITAL.  
VISIBILITY WAS GOOD AT TIME OF ACCIDENT. DC-8 COMPLETELY  
DISINTEGRATED AND CONSUMED BY FIRE ENSUING FROM CARGO OF  
CIGARETTES. SMALL PIECES OF WRECKAGE LITTER WEST END  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NIAMEY 01038 050325Z

RUNWAY AND NIAMEY AIRPORT CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC  
FOR PRESENT.

2. SURVIVING CREW MEMBERS GARY GROBBEL AND JESSE BRYANT  
WILLIAMS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO PRIVATE GAMKALLEY MEDICAL  
CLINIC. GROBBEL IS SUFFERING FROM BADLY BROKEN LEFT ARM,  
MULTIPLE ABRASIONS AND CONTUSIONS; HIS CONDITON IS GOOD.

WILLIAMS HAS SEVERE CONCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE SKULL FRACTURE,  
HEAD LACERATIONS AND FRACTURED LEFT ELBOW. WILLIAMS'  
CONDITION STABLE. JAMES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NIAEMEY01038  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770076-0171  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NIAEMEY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770392/aaaaddki.tel  
**Line Count:** 65  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** efbaadbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 NIAEMEY 1019, 77 USUN NEW YORK 618  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3207453  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR-CRASH OF OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS DC-8  
**TAGS:** EAIR, NG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/efbaadbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009